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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of December, 1987)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters has increased for the ninth consecutive month. The land crew total increased by two crews, but the marine crew total decreased by one for a net increase of one crew to a total of 199.

The December total (199) represents an increase of 1% over last month, a 27% increase over December, 1986, a 39% decrease from December, 1985, a 57% decrease from December, 1984, a 60% decrease from December, 1983, a 58% decrease from December, 1982, and a decrease of 72% from the same month in 1981.

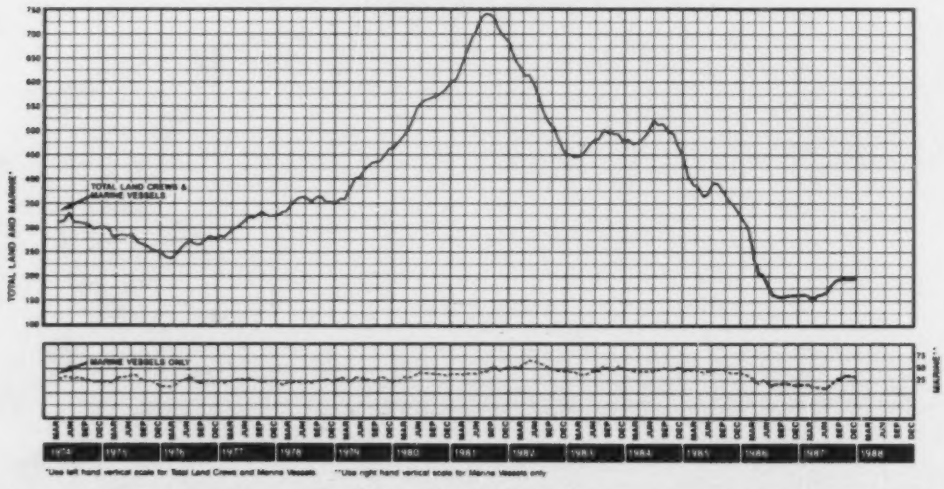
During December, one contractor was operating one of the 157 land crews and none of the twenty-four marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Dec.'86	Dec.'85	Dec.'84	Dec.'83	Dec. 82	Dec.'81
	199	198	157	326	466	493	477	703

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1982	Dec. 1981	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1982	Dec. 1981
43 Contr's:	157	155	121	255	378	408	386	613	24	25	15	33	44	41	42	39
8 Oil Co's:	15	15	18	32	36	37	42	43	3	3	3	6	8	7	7	8
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	172	170	139	287	414	445	428	656	27	28	18	39	52	48	49	47

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



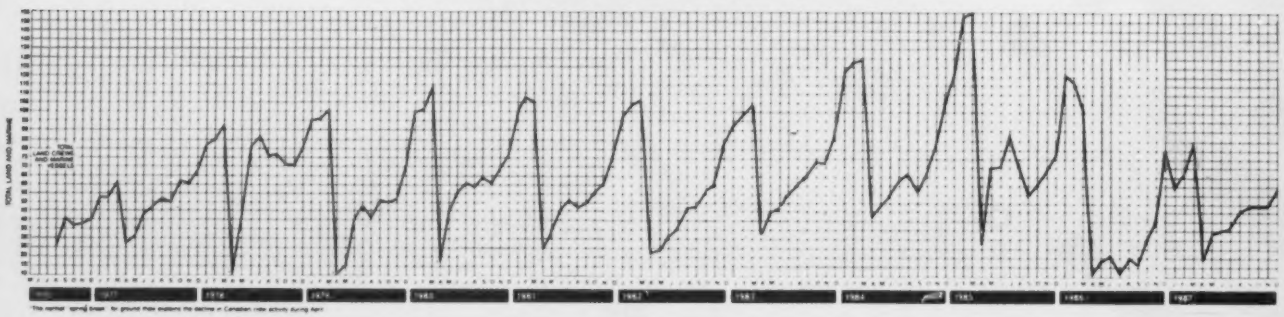
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

December, 1987 (November figures in parentheses)

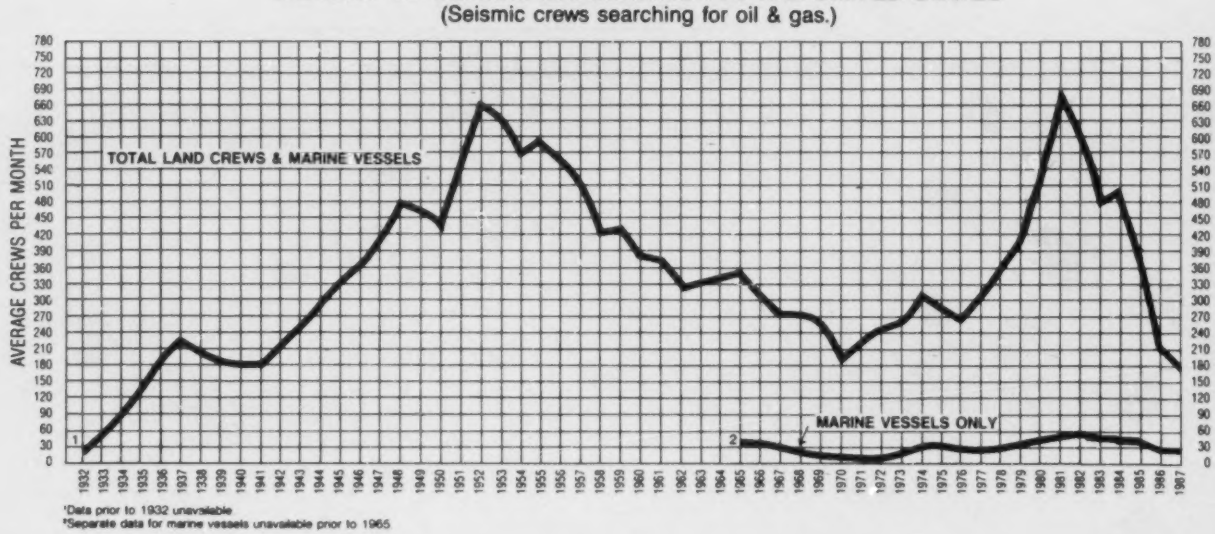
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
25 Contractors:	62 (47)	0 (1)
1 Oil Company:	2 (2)	0 (0)
Totals:	64 (49)	0 (1)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965